



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

11. — 1. *The Flush Times of Alabama and Mississippi. A Series of Sketches.* By JOSEPH G. BALDWIN. Ninth Thousand. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1854. 24mo. pp. 330.
2. *Party Leaders; Sketches of Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, John Randolph of Roanoke, including Notices of many other distinguished American Statesmen.* By JOSEPH G. BALDWIN. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1855. 12mo. pp. 369.

THE first of these books contains a series of pictures, for the most part intensely comic, yet hardly overdrawn, of life and manners in the Southwest, when life in that region was new, and manners in the Chesterfieldian sense were not. If they are fancy paintings, still they have enough of verisimilitude to assure us that the outlines were copied from life. But in our judgment the best part of this volume is that which is wholly free from the grotesque element. Of eloquent and life-like characterization we can hardly point to a richer specimen than Mr. Baldwin's sketch of Hon. S. S. Prentiss, or that of equal merit, which, under the fictitious name of Hon. Francis Strother, describes, as is intimated to the reader, an eminently gifted, upright, and patriotic living statesman of Alabama. In the "Party Leaders" the author has virtually dramatized the portions of our political history of which he undertakes to portray the central personages. We are not certain that he adduces any new facts or anecdotes; but he writes as if he had participated actively in all that he describes. His plan implies the grouping of incidents and subordinate agents around the master-spirits of the times, and by a similar grouping around momentous crises in public affairs, he combines with each portion of his narrative the unity of time with that of action. We trust that the stamp of public approbation, which we have quoted from the title-page of our copy of "The Flush Times," will be equalled — it deserves to be surpassed — by the general appreciation of the later work.

- 
12. — 1. *Poems.* By THOMAS WILLIAM PARSONS. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1854. 16mo. pp. 189.
2. *Poems of the Orient.* By BAYARD TAYLOR. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1855. 16mo. pp. 203.
3. *The Bells: a Collection of Chimes.* By T. B. A. New York: J. C. Derby. 1855. 24mo. pp. 144.

THE first of these books displays more culture than enthusiasm, — more of the poetic art than of poetic fire. Its author shows a rare

wealth of resource, derived equally from study and from travel, — from classic fountains and from the literature and life of the present day. His versification is smooth and harmonious. The poems that will do the most for his reputation are certain demi-burlesque epistles, addressed, under the assumed character of an Englishman in America, to Rogers the poet, Charles Kemble, Moxon the publisher, and Walter Savage Landor.

Mr. Taylor's volume contains a large amount of healthy, manly sentiment, such as does credit to his mental and moral nature ; and yet we a little doubt whether he is a born poet. But however this may be, the book is entirely free from pretension and extravagance, and if it does not enhance, it will not impair, a literary reputation nobly earned and richly merited.

"The Bells" is a first publication by a very young man, who has much yet to learn as regards the art of versification, but who gives tokens of genuine poetic feeling, and will win, in process of years, an enviable reputation, if these windfalls are a presage of the fruit that is yet to ripen on the same tree.

13. — *The Hearth-Stone: or Thoughts upon Home-Life in our Cities.* By SAMUEL OSGOOD. Fifth Edition. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1854. 24mo. pp. 290.

WE ought not to have waited for a *fifth* edition to bear our grateful testimony to the worth of this book. Its endeavor is to infuse a religious spirit into the relations, occupations, and amusements of "home-life in our cities." This aim is pursued with a sacred singleness of purpose, with an attractive grace of style, and on that elevated ground of supra-sectarian and practical Christianity which must secure for the work equal favor and like opportunity of usefulness with readers of every denomination.

14. — *Ida May: a Story of Things Actual and Possible.* By MARY LANGDON. Boston: Phillips, Sampson, & Co. 1854. 12mo. pp. 478.

IT tells much for this story that its authorship should have been very generally attributed to Mrs. Stowe. We did not for a moment think it hers. It displays a more careful and uniform artistic elaboration than "Uncle Tom's Cabin," but falls far short of it in power of delineation, and in its hold on the sympathies. It will follow in the wake of its predecessor, and keep the furrow open where that parted the waters ; but